(b) Government have provided necessary facilities and made appropriate banking immigration customs, security and infrastructural arrangements for the conduct of border trade.

(c) and (d) A system of Border Travel Pass has been introduced to provide overland travel facilities for traders only, following issuance of a Notification on 7th April, 1995. This allows traders from both sides to travel from 1—7 days into each other's countries. Our traders can go up to Mandalay in Yangon and Myanmarese traders can come up to Guwahati in Assam.

A Memorandum of Understanding by which direct flights by the national carriers of each country between Myanmar and India would be resumed, was signed on 11th July 1995.

"Collect Call" Facility

2139. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to start the facility of "Collect call" in our country;

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the advantages and disadvantages of this facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The "Collect Call" facility is already available in the Department as Reverse Charge Trunk Calls.

(b) Does not arise in view of above.

(c) Advantages

A person is authorised (through issue of a Card of Authority by the Department) to make Trunk Call from any Trunk Public Call Office in the country to a specified Telephone number without prepayment of the charges. The charges for such calls are recovered from the called subscriber instead of from the calling party.

Limitation

These services are specific to limited group users like the press or small business houses for their field staff rather being universally available from all the telephones in the network.

Implementation of Afforestation Programme to increase Forest Cover in Bihar

2140. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing or propose to implement any massive programme of afforestation to increase the forest cover in the State of Bihar;

(b) if so, what arc the details thereof;

(c) whether any afforestation targets were fixed for the State during the Eight Five Year Plan period;

(d) if so, what progress has so far been made by the State to achieve the targets; and

(e) the details of the role being played by the State Government of Bihar in increasing the forest cover in the State?

THE MfNISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Under 20 Point Programme, afforestation and tree planting activities are carried out in all States4JTs, including Bihar, under various Central and State Plan Schemes, as well as Externally aided projects.

The State-wise targets for afforestation- tree planting activities under the 20 Point Programme arc fixed on an annual basis keeping in view the financial allocations in Central and State Plans. An illustrative list of schemes under which these ac-